

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Tadashi TACHIBANA)
Application No.: Unassigned) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: October 8, 2003) Examiner: Unassigned
For: OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of each listed document is attached.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a language other than English.

a. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 7-311962. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2,3,4 of the specification of the present application and is shown in the English-language abstract.

b. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2002-08242. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2,3,4 of the specification of the present application and is shown in the English-language abstract.

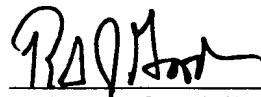
c. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2001-266352. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2,4 of the specification of the present application and is shown in the English-language abstract.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document. Applicant further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP



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Date: October 8, 2003

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PTO Form 1449	Applicant Tadashi TACHIBANA	Filing Date October 8, 2003
		Group Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES NO
		7-311962	Nov. 28, 1995	Japan			Abstract
		2002-08242	Jan. 11, 2002	Japan			Abstract
		2001-266352	Sep. 28, 2001	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	